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Jc574 U.S. PTO
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Akito NIWA et al.)
)
Serial No.: Not yet assigned) Group Art Unit: Not assigned
)
Filed: November 24, 1999) Examiner: Not assigned

For: ENCRYPTION APPARATUS, CRYPTOGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
SYSTEM, KEY RECOVERY SYSTEM, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the
Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of
the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the
Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate
that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-
referenced application.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English
language document:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 8-506217 (which corresponds to
Japanese Patent Application No. 5-518661) - discloses a key recovery
mechanism and refers to the user's secret key escrow in Public Key Crypto
system. (Figure 2 and summary of page 1)

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

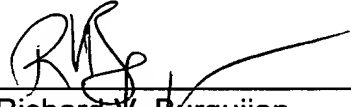
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:


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Dated: November 24, 1999

Enclosures
RVB/FPD/dvz